

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of transacting a prescription, the method comprising:
 - receiving a prescription proposal from a portable healthcare device for real-time adjudication;
 - transmitting the prescription proposal to a benefits manager for immediate adjudication of the prescription proposal;
 - preparing results of the adjudication from the benefits manager for reading at the portable healthcare device; and
 - forwarding the prepared results to the portable healthcare device to be considered in generating a prescription for transfer in real-time across a network pathway to a remote prescription site.
2. The method of claim 1, further including receiving the prescription from the portable healthcare device and transferring the prescription across the network pathway to the remote prescription site.
3. The method of claim 2, further including processing the prescription according to at least one rule prior to the transferring of the prescription.

4. The method of claim 1, further including determining an appropriate benefits manager to adjudicate the prescription proposal and the transmitting of the prescription proposal occurs if an appropriate benefits manager is identified.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjudication results includes an acceptance or decline of the prescription proposal.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjudication results includes at least one suggested alternative parameter.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the suggested alternative parameter addresses an adverse drug interaction, compliance with a formulary or patient cost.
8. The method of claim 6, wherein the prescription includes at least one of the suggested alternative parameter.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the adjudication includes consideration of patient eligibility, drug interaction, formulary compliance or patient healthcare history.
10. A system to transact a prescription, comprising:
- a) an internal network port to receive a prescription proposal and a prescription from the portable healthcare device;

- b) a benefits manager engine to determine an appropriate benefits manager for a prescription proposal from a portable healthcare device;
- c) a result processing unit to prepare adjudication results for reading at the portable healthcare device;
- d) an interface to prepare the prescription for receipt by a next segment in the network pathway towards a remote prescription site; and
- e) an external network port to transfer the prescription into the network pathway in real-time to the remote prescription site.

- 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the result processing unit is further to integrate the adjudication results with the prescription proposal.
- 12. The system of claim 10, further including a prescription processing unit to process the prescription according to at least one rule prior to transferring of the prescription.
- 13. The system of claim 10, wherein the adjudication results includes an acceptance or decline of the prescription proposal.
- 14. The system of claim 10, wherein the adjudication results includes at least one suggested alternative parameter.
- 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the suggested alternative parameter addresses an adverse drug interaction, compliance with a formulary or patient cost.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the prescription includes at least one of the suggested alternative parameter.
17. A computer accessible medium having stored therein a plurality of sequences of executable instructions, which, when executed by a processor, cause the system to:
- receive a prescription proposal from a portable healthcare device for real-time adjudication;
- transmit the prescription proposal to a benefits manager for immediate adjudication of the prescription proposal;
- prepare results of the adjudication from the benefits manager for reading at the portable healthcare device; and
- forward the prepared results to the portable healthcare device to be considered in generating a prescription for transfer in real-time across a network pathway to a remote prescription site.
18. The computer accessible medium of claim 17, further including additional sequences of executable instructions, which, when executed by the processor further cause the system to receive the prescription from the portable healthcare device and transferring the prescription across the network pathway to the remote prescription site.
19. The computer accessible medium of claim 17, further including additional sequences of executable instructions, which, when executed by the processor further cause the system

to process the prescription according to at least one rule prior to the transferring of the prescription.

20. The computer accessible medium of claim 17, further including additional sequences of executable instructions, which, when executed by the processor further cause the system to determine an appropriate benefits manager to adjudicate the prescription proposal and the transmitting of the prescription proposal occurs if an appropriate benefits manager is identified.
21. The computer accessible medium of claim 17, wherein the adjudication results includes an acceptance or decline of the prescription proposal.
22. The computer accessible medium of claim 17, wherein the adjudication results includes at least one suggested alternative parameter.
23. The computer accessible medium of claim 22, wherein the suggested alternative parameter addresses an adverse drug interaction, compliance with a formulary or patient cost.
24. The computer accessible medium of claim 22, wherein the prescription includes at least one of the suggested alternative parameter.

25. The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the adjudication includes consideration of patient eligibility, drug interaction, formulary compliance or patient healthcare history.
26. A method of verifying a user in a prescription-related transaction, the method comprising:
 - receiving a prescription proposal from a portable healthcare device for real-time adjudication;
 - determining an appropriate benefits manager to adjudicate the prescription proposal; and
 - if an appropriate benefits manager is identified:
 - transmitting the prescription proposal to a benefits manager for immediate adjudication of the prescription proposal;
 - preparing results of the adjudication from the benefits manager for reading at the portable healthcare device;
 - forwarding the prepared results to the portable healthcare device to be considered in generating a prescription; and
 - receiving the prescription from the portable healthcare device and transferring the prescription across the network pathway in real-time to the remote prescription site.
27. The method of claim 26, wherein the adjudication results includes at least one of the suggested alternative parameter.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the prescription includes at least one of the suggested alternative parameter.
29. The method of claim 26, wherein the adjudication includes consideration of patient eligibility, drug interaction, formulary compliance or patient healthcare history.